

COUNTRY: [REDACTED] Approved For Release 2003/03/05 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000600290002-2

TOPIC: Military Information from Zeitz

EVALUATION: [REDACTED] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED: [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT: 19 to 24 January 1953

DATE OBTAINED: [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED: 18 February 1953

REFERENCES: [REDACTED] 25X1A

PAGES: 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

25X1X

1. From 19 to 24 January 1953, the Infanterie Kaserne east of Friedens Strasse, Zeitz, was occupied by an estimated 2,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets mostly with artillery insignia and, about 25 percent, with AT and motor transport insignia. Drill with and without carbines and formation drill was observed in the installation. A target range, about 150 meters long, was being prepared in the barracks area. Reports of AT guns were heard from there. At 4 p.m. on 22 January, rocket launchers [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED] occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia, were seen entering the installation. At 11 a.m. on 23 January, trucks [REDACTED]

25X1B

25X1B

[REDACTED] each towing a 57-mm AT gun; trucks [REDACTED] occupied by soldiers; truck [REDACTED] with a field kitchen; and ambulance [REDACTED] were seen leaving the installation. The column was escorted by a total of about 250 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and AT insignia. All motor vehicles [REDACTED]

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25X1

[REDACTED] motor vehicles seen en route to the installation included [REDACTED]

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25X1B

2. From 19 to 24 January, the Artillerie Kaserne west of Friedens Strasse was occupied by an estimated 1,800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. A few soldiers wearing motor transport and artillery insignia and 50 to 80 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets were also seen. Individual training as well as training at squad level was observed in the installation. Trucks [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] were seen en route to the installation. Units of 800 to 1,000 soldiers continually received training in the Elsterwiesen and Muehlwiesen (meadows). Tanks participated in night practices. Their [REDACTED]

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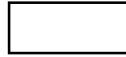
1. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] the unit observed leaving the Infanterie Kaserne on 23 January 1953, as well as motor vehicle [REDACTED] belongs to the 8th Gds Mecz Div. The presence at Zeitz of a unit of this division cannot be accounted for.

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
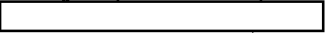
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2.  Comment. The two regiments of the 20th Gds Mecz Div stationed in Zeitz can be carried in the Artillerie Kaserne as previously. This was also indicated by a previous report by the same source in late December 1952. .

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